

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/615,805

Examiner

Thomas M Sember

Applicant(s)

AMANO, YASUYUKI

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed on July 10, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

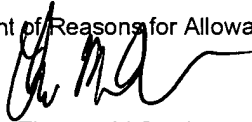
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 07/10/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Thomas M Sember
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record alone or in combination fails to teach or fairly suggest applicant's claimed invention.

3. Particularly, the applicant claims among other things "a reflector portion having a stepwise reflection surface on at least a part of the reflector portion in which there are alternately formed a plurality of light incidence sections into which the collimated light enters and a plurality of intermediate sections into which no collimated light enters; **and at least a portion of the intermediate sections is formed from an irregular surface formed so as to recess rearward of the lamp with respect to a plane parallel to the direction of radiation of the collimated light.**"

The prior art of record which is most similar to applicant's invention is taught by Jenkins et al. Jenkins et al discloses a light source 34 and an optical member 40 for converting light originating from the light source 34 into collimated light, and a reflector portion 42' for reflecting the collimated light exiting from the optical member 34 forward of the lamp. The reflecting facets 42' are regular surfaces and gradually and evenly slope upwards away from the lamp towards the output side.

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The applicant distinguishes from Jenkins et al and the other prior art of record by further teaching "the reflector portion having a **stepwise reflection surface** (for example 16a in figures 3-4) on at least a part of the reflector portion in which there are alternately formed a **plurality of light incidence sections** (for example 16g in figures 3-4) into which the collimated light enters and a **plurality of intermediate sections** (for example 16s in figures 3-4) into which no collimated light enters; and at least a portion of the intermediate sections is formed from an **irregular surface** formed so as to recess rearward of the lamp with respect to a plane parallel to the direction of radiation of the collimated light.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Boyd et al '016 and '874, Whitney et al and Fohl et al '340 and '078 all disclose lamp assemblies which are similar to applicant's invention.

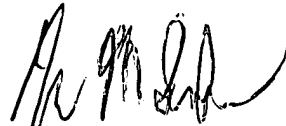
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas M Sember whose telephone number

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is 571-272-2381. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 A.M- 5.30 p.m. first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 703-305-4939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thomas M Sember
Primary Examiner
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